

1733



Docket No. 22750/350

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Peter PFEUFFER  
Serial No.: 08/900,254  
Filing Date: July 25, 1997  
For: FILTER MATERIAL, METHOD OF ITS MANUFACTURE, AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING A FILTER MATERIAL

Group Art Unit: 1733  
Examiner: Yao, S.

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UAE  
9/7/02

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Date: August 23, 2002 Reg. No. 31,792  
Signature: Richard M. Rosati

**AMENDMENT**

In response to the Office Action dated May 28, 2002, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

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**In the Claims:**

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) A method for manufacturing a pleated filter material from a thermally bonded non-woven fabric, comprising :  
forming a single fibrous web from undrawn and fully drawn synthetic fibers;  
calendering the single fibrous web in a single calendering step, wherein during the single calendering step, the undrawn fibers in the single fibrous web are bonded in a tension-free manner between profiled calender rolls to form the non-woven fabric, without inhomogeneities over the cross-section of the non-woven fabric and without the use of flat bonding, and wherein during the single calendering step, spacers are formed in the non-woven fabric to thereby form the filter material.